

# NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

*RANDY G. MASSEY*

*ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY*

---

*Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700*

---

*For Immediate Release*

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2006**

## **MARION WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MAIL FRAUD AND TAX VIOLATIONS**

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on September 25, 2006, **TINA RENEE WALKER**, age 36 of Marion, Illinois, pled guilty to the offenses of Mail Fraud and Filing a False Tax Returns for the years 2003 and 2004. The offenses carry a total statutory maximum possible punishment of up to twenty-six years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$750,000, three years supervised release, and mandatory restitution.

**TINA RENEE WALKER** admitted as part of the plea that from approximately October 2003 to October 2004 while she worked as an office manager for Dr. Medha Suwana (Suwana), a general surgeon, whose office is located in Herrin, IL, she embezzled funds totaling approximately \$142,000. **TINA RENEE WALKER** also admitted as part of the plea that she filed false federal income tax returns in 2003 and 2004 and failed to report the embezzled funds as income. Tina Renee Walker engaged in a scheme to defraud Dr. Suawana which involved the foreseeable use of mail delivered by the Postal Service, that being checks made payable to Dr. Medha Suwana. **TINA RENEE WALKER** admitted as part of the plea that during 2003 and 2004, she used the \$142,149.34 of embezzled money to make mortgage payments, pay off vehicles, purchase 4-wheelers, purchase a hot tub, build a deck around her pool, as well as other various purchases, including trips to the casino boats in Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service, Office of Criminal Investigations, Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General and the United States Department of Labor. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

If you suspect or know of an individual or company that is not complying with the tax laws, you may report this activity by contacting the local Internal Revenue Service/Criminal Investigation Office at (618) 622-2160 or by mailing information to:

Internal Revenue Service  
Fresno, CA 93888

Please include the following information, if available:

Name and address of the person you are reporting

The taxpayer identification number (social security number for an individual or employer identification number for a business)

A brief description of the alleged violation, including how you became aware of or obtained the information

The years involved

The estimated dollar amount of any unreported income

Your name, address and daytime telephone number

*Although you are not required to identify yourself, it is helpful to do so. Your identity can be kept confidential. You may also be entitled to a reward.*